

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 107862 TOSEC 040221
ORIGIN PA-02

INFO OCT-01 PRS-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 /019 R

DRAFTED BY PA/M:REBUTLER:REB
APPROVED BY PA/M:CWFREEMAN,JR.
S/S:SGOLDSMITH
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
PA, S/S, S/PRS

-----121856Z 068819 /50
O 121829Z MAY 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 107862 TOSEC 040221

FOR CARTER FROM PA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT ASSOCIATED PRESS ITEM IN MAY 12
WASHINGTON POST HEADED "LAOS EX-ENVOY SAYS HE DIRECTED
BOMBING.
2. WILLIAM H. SULLIVAN, PRESIDENT CARTER'S CHOICE TO BE
U.S. AMBASSADOR TO IRAN, ACKNOWLEDGED IN SENATE TESTI-
MONY YESTERDAY THAT HE EARLIER HAD DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY
FOR A SECRET BOMBING CAMPAIGN IN LAOS.

3. SULLIVAN INSISTED, HOWEVER, THAT HE NEVER APPROVED
BOMBING INHABITED AREAS IN LAOS AND THAT HE KEPT A TIGHT
REIN ON THE LIST OF TARGETS HIT BY AIR FORCE FIGHTER
BOMBERS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 107862 TOSEC 040221

4. SULLIVAN WAS A MEMBER OF A SPECIAL STATE DEPARTMENT
TASK FORCE ON VIETNAM IN THE EARLY 60S AND WAS AMBAS-
SADOR TO LAOS FROM 1964 TO 1969.
5. SULLIVAN TOLD THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE
THAT UPON ARRIVING IN VIENTI E HE TOOK CONTROL OF THE

BOMBING RUNS, DESIGNED TO CUT OFF SUPPLIES OF WEAPONS

MOVING FROM NORTH VIETNAM TO SOUTH VIETNAM.

6. "NO AUTHORITY WAS GIVEN THE MILITARY TO STRIKE TARGETS INHABITED BY CIVILIANS," SULLIVAN SAID.

7. HE ACKNOWLEDGED, HOWEVER, THAT SOME LAOTIAN PEASANTS WERE KILLED BY U.S. PLANES AND THAT MANY MORE WERE DRIVEN FROM THEIR VILLAGES AND BECAME REFUGEES. "THERE WERE SOME ACCIDENTS AND NAVIGATIONAL ERRORS," HE SAID.

8. SEN. GEORGE MCGOVERN (D-S.D.), AN EARLY OPPONENT OF U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN INDOCHINA, SAID THAT WHILE "I RECOGNIZE WE CAN'T LIE IN THE SHADOW OF THE INDOCHINA TRAGEDY FOREVER, I AM APPALLED BY WHAT HAPPENED IN LAOS."

9. CRITICS WHO TESTIFIED AGAINST SULLIVAN'S NOMINATION SAID THE CAREER DIPLOMAT HAS IN SEVERAL EARLIER POSTS SHOWN A PATTERN OF ALIGNING HIMSELF WITH THE REPRESSIVE GOVERNMENTS IN CONTRADICTION OF CARTER'S POLICY OF URGING IMPROVED HUMAN RIGHTS IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

10. RICHARD FALK, A PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR AND ANTIWAR ACTIVIST, SAID SULLIVAN, IN HIS MOST RECENT ROLE AS AMBASSADOR TO THE PHILIPPINES, GAVE "TACIT SUPPORT" TO THE REPRESSIVE POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF FERDINAND MARCOS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 107862 TOSEC 040221

11. ANOTHER CRITIC, MARCUS RASKIN OF THE INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES, A LIBERAL RESEARCH ORGANIZATION, SAID SULLIVAN "WAS ONE OF TWO OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CAREER CIVIL SERVANTS WHO INITIATED, FASHIONED AND CARRIED OUT THE WAR IN INDOCHINA." END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, PRESS COMMENTS, BOMBING, US CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE107862
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: REBUTLER:REB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770168-0026
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770564/aaaacdjwtel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 46c7b695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2545992
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS MATERIAL
TAGS: OVIP, SOPN, MOPS, US, LA, ASSOCIATED PRESS, WASHINGTON POST, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (SULLIVAN, WILLIAM H)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbcr://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/46c7b695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009